

Modernisation of rail signals and telecommunication

4680. **SHRI SATISH PRADHAN:** Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state the details of concrete steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government for improvement and modernisation of signalling and telecommunication to reduce dependence on human elements for preventing collisions and derailments?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): Improvement in Signalling System like replacement of Overaged Signalling assets by electrical panel operation of points and signals (More than 2200 stations provided so far, Track Circuiting (Completed from Fouling Mark to Fouling Mark at all stations on 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' spl & 'D' routes where trains run at a speed 775 Kmph), Block Proving by Axle Counter (216 Block Sections provided so far) and Auxiliary Warning System (provided on suburban section in Mumbai area) are being progressed on a programmed basis depending on availability of funds, for improving the safety by reducing human dependence in train operation on Indian Railways.

Walkie Talkie sets have been provided to driver and guards of all trains (Mail/Express & Goods) for communication during emergency. The modern telecom systems like Optical Fibre Cable for improved Train control and administrative trunk communications are being progressively provided. Mobile Train Radio Communication system for effective communication between driver and section controllers have already been provided on certain important sections of Indian Railways. A pilot project of Radio based European Train Control System on Delhi-Mathura section of Central Railway has been taken up and is under progress. It has also been decided to provide similar system with enhanced features on A, B & C routes progressively on Indian Railways.